

SECRET

SECURITY INFORMATION

German Democratic Republic

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FAILURE OF POTATO DELIVERIES (3 pp German, [REDACTED])

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Despite assignment to Sachsen-Anhalt Wednesday no arrivals in Leipzig today fulfillment state 79 percent request urgently immediate delivery remaining amount potatoes Sachsen-Anhalt [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] at present comptroller in Wismar-Mecklenburg, to the Mayor of Leipzig. The report deals with the reasons for the failures of potato deliveries from the Wismar area in Mecklenburg. The peasants, despite repeated reprimands, have not delivered their quotas. The peasants have even answered with violence. Many have been arrested. Meetings have been held in all communities with the mayors to discuss the increase of the potato crop, but no results have been realized. Sufficient trains are available to transport the potatoes, but no eating potatoes are there to fill them. Some of the reasons for this are: 1) The propaganda carried out in October to deliver potatoes for industrial purposes to starch factories, caused peasants to include great quantities of eating potatoes. 2) Peasants kept great quantities of potatoes stored in their cellar. 3) Special delivery of 3,000 tons of potatoes to Poland helped to upset the plan.

Of the 47 communities that deliver potatoes to Leipzig, only two fulfilled their quotas 100 percent. Much of the soil has been left untilled, and the reporter suggests that approximately 20 percent of the peasants would have to be thrown off their property to establish order.

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[REDACTED] Foreign language document or microfilm of it ([REDACTED]) is available from CIA library.

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18 Feb 1952

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